

CO-Oximeter Devices (October 2010)

Item:

Use of CO-Oximeter devices for measuring concentrations of Carbon Monoxide (CO) in the blood.

Classification:

- Advanced Life Support procedure
- Although non-invasive, the use of CO-Oximeters to measure CO exposure is considered a laboratory test rather than measurement of vital signs.
- Laboratory testing is not specifically listed in the scope of practice regulations for EMT or paramedics.

Use and Level:

- Not authorized for EMT
- Not authorized for AEMT
- Not authorized for Paramedics

Authority:

California Code of Regulations 100145 (c) (2) Chapter 4, allows the Medical Director of a Local Emergency Medical Service Agency to request trial studies for Paramedics with EMSA approval.

Training:

Local EMS Agency's Medical Directors who wish to add the use of the CO-Oximeter devices must submit a request for a trial study.

Equipment:

- Use of CO-Oximeter devices shall conform to the trial study parameters.

Medical Direction:

Used in accordance with trial study protocols.

Considerations and Recommendations:

Currently in the trial study process only.